

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A specimen centrifuge apparatus comprising:  
a centrifuge device including specimen centrifuge  
units stacked one on another;

5 a carry-in conveyor provided along a horizontal  
conveyance line that passes by the centrifuge device  
and having a container delivering section close to  
the centrifuge device, the carry-in conveyor conveying  
pre-processed specimen containers;

10 a carry-out conveyor provided along the horizontal  
conveyance line and having a container receiving  
section close to the centrifuge device, the carry-out  
conveyor conveying processed specimen containers;

15 a carry-in elevator provided along a vertical  
conveyance line that passes by the specimen centrifuge  
units of the centrifuge device, the carry-in elevator  
conveying a given number of pre-processed specimen  
containers from a level of the container delivering  
section of the carry-in conveyor to a level of the  
20 container delivering section of a designated centrifuge  
unit;

a carry-out elevator provided along the vertical  
conveyance line, the carry-out elevator conveying  
a given number of processed specimen containers from  
25 a level of the designated centrifuge unit to a level  
of the container receiving section of the carry-out  
conveyor;

a carry-in transfer arm which transfers the pre-processed specimen containers from the carry-in conveyor to the carry-in elevator;

5 a carry-out transfer arm which transfers the processed specimen containers from the carry-out elevator to the carry-out conveyor;

10 a loading arm attached to each of the specimen centrifuge units, the loading arm removing the pre-processed specimen containers from the carry-in elevator and loads the pre-processed specimen containers into one of the specimen centrifuge units; and

15 an unloading arm attached to each of the specimen centrifuge units, the unloading arm unloading the processed specimen containers from one of the specimen centrifuge units and moving the processed specimen containers to the carry-out elevator.

2. The specimen centrifuge apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the container delivering section  
20 of the carry-in conveyor is arranged in parallel to a specimen container rack attached to the carry-in elevator and a rectangular parallelepiped specimen container bucket located in a container inserting section of a rotor of each of the specimen centrifuge  
25 units to allow the pre-processed specimen containers arranged in line to move, and the container receiving section of the carry-out conveyor is arranged in

parallel to a specimen container rack attached to the  
carry-out elevator and a rectangular parallelepiped  
specimen container bucket located in a container  
removing section of the rotor of each of the specimen  
5 centrifuges to allow the processed specimen containers  
arranged in line to move.

3. The specimen centrifuge apparatus according to  
claim 2, wherein the rotor of each of the specimen  
centrifuge units is located such that a longitudinal  
10 direction of the rectangular parallelepiped specimen  
container bucket corresponds to the radial direction of  
a rotating disc.

4. The specimen centrifuge apparatus according to  
claim 1, further comprising a controller which operates  
15 the specimen centrifuge units simultaneously or  
selectively.

5. The specimen centrifuge apparatus according to  
claim 1, further comprising a controller which sets  
rotation directions of a rotor of the specimen  
20 centrifuge units in a given direction.